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WARTIME EXTENSION WORK

SUMMARY OF EXTENSION WORK, TECHNIQUES, AND RESULTS
BASED ON STATE REPORTS

APR - 8 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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The surge of wartime activity pulses through this week's reports from the States. Thousands of small dairymen will milk more cows this year. \$36,000 in contributions for Russian Seed Relief. Victory Gardens. Farm Labor. Cattle Grub Control.

KANSAS

February 12, 1943

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Outlook.— Outlook for farm products discussed in series six district meetings for county agents and leaders from every county. Information to be taken to farmers so that they may make adjustments to keep production at high level.

Transportation and marketing.— Meetings held with leaders of livestock, dairy, and poultry industries at which State advisory transportation committees set up. Extension economist is secretary of committee on livestock transportation. Committee will guide local areas in working out practical industry transportation plans that will keep livestock moving and still conserve truck equipment and tires. Assistance given cooperative turkey marketing pools in solving marketing problems. Cooperative agreements with local high schools resulted in obtaining much of labor used at killing plants. Two turkey grading schools conducted to train plant graders in new OPA regulations.

Seed.— Through meetings, field visits, press, radio, farmers urged to obtain and conserve good quality seed stocks for spring planting.

Cattle grub control.— Organized campaign for cattle grub control under way. County agents arranging demonstrations and urging use of derri's wash. Material made available to farmers; excellent results obtained.

Food and nutrition.— Schedule worked out for emergency nutritionists to reach all nonagent counties. Will carry information to neighborhood leaders and farm people on food situation, food preservation, rationing, use of new flours, meat preservation. In defense areas southeastern Kansas, series of meetings planned for defense workers on food selection and preparation.

Clothing.— Representatives educational institutions and cooperating agencies met with retail merchants in Topeka, to discuss clothing situation and problems of rural and urban families. Suggestions made for meeting or solving problems. Farm women interested in making over old garments as well as making new garments.

Home management.— Material on use, care, and repair electrical household equipment presented in community meetings, 8 counties. Training 217 leaders in 11 counties in money plans and money records.

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February 27, 1943

239-43

Home health and sanitation.- Meetings conducted on prevention of accidents in home, and emergency treatment. Rural women intensely interested in making homes safe.

KENTUCKY

February 15, 1943

Training farm workers.- Twenty-two farmers from 7 counties given 9 day's intensive training at college of agriculture in use of dairy and poultry machinery and equipment and of general farm machinery. Trainees placed with dairy farmers in 3 areas.

4-H Clubs.- With goal of 200,000 4-H Club members, enrollment now well over 150,000 - three times last year's enrollment. In some counties 4-H boys and girls will produce food equal to that required by men of county now serving in armed forces.

Lambs.- Farmers urged to hold lambs to 85 to 100 pounds instead of selling at 70 to 80. Thousands of Kentucky lambs already arrived and reported to be doing well. Absence of price discrimination against heavier weights encouraging to farmers.

Hogs.- Kentucky farmers, competing in ton-litter contest, report 19 litters going to market at average weight of 2,238 pounds. List topped with a litter of 13 pigs weighing 3,264 pounds, or more than double the average litter weight for United States.

Dairy.- Thousands of small dairy farmers will milk 1 to 3 cows more. Will not buy additional cows but select them from their general farm herds. Estimates indicate more than 600,000 cows will have their first calves this year. These cows will help materially to lift milk production.

Hybrid corn.- State's corn production will be increased by planting of estimated million acres to hybrid corn, Increase should be 10 million bushels if season is favorable.

Information.- 12 Food-for-Freedom circulars and leaflets published. Subjects include: farm production for 1943; Victory Gardens; home production of poultry, eggs, fruits, berries, and other foods; more pork; potato growing; winter feeding of dairy cows; cooperative use of farm machinery; tobacco varieties and diseases.

NEW YORK

February 10, 1943

Victory Gardens.- Emphasis on Victory Gardens to be increased in cities, towns, and suburbs. Extension will retain leadership in program with county 4-H agents acting as coordinators. Extension director will continue as chairman of State Victory Garden council. Series of 6 Victory Garden leaflets being prepared to furnish seasonal information. Special attention to be given training local leadership, perhaps based on block system in cities. In rural, suburban, and small-town communities, leadership to be built around community Victory Garden committees acting under county Victory Garden council.

Marketing fruits and vegetables.- Subcommittee on marketing of State land-use committee met with representatives of USDA, State department of agriculture and markets, extension, producers' organizations, retailers, wholesalers, and others, to discuss marketing situation. Special attention paid to critical problems of packages for produce, effects of price ceilings and regulations, labor shortage, grades and standards for produce, and production goals - all in light of war situation. Conference made recommendations for setting up necessary facilities, including package depots, for conserving, assembling, and redistributing used packages for handling 1943 crops.

Farm labor.- Five regional farm labor representatives of county agricultural agents in State will meet with State technical committee on farm labor to consider program. Representative county home demonstration and 4-H Club agents will join in conference of all county agricultural agents, heads of departments, extension project leaders, and technical committee.

Machinery.- Demonstration meetings to teach farmers care and maintenance of electric motors being held in practically every county. In one county, farmers brought 63 electric motors to the meeting and were told how to diagnose trouble and care for minor difficulties.

Information.- Slides and motion picture films being prepared to facilitate extension teaching under war conditions. These include Growing and Harvesting Peas, Swine Production, Planting Forest Trees, Victory Gardens, Remodeling Clothes.

NORTH DAKOTA
February 15, 1943

Neighborhood leaders.- District conferences of all extension workers during late January developed program of work for 10,000 neighborhood leaders. Production for Victory, 24-page bulletin prepared by extension specialists, will serve as guide for neighborhood leaders' in presenting production helps to farm families; 55,000 being distributed. Local meetings with all neighborhood leaders under way; specialists cooperating.

4-H Mobilization Week.- Local and district meetings to create interest in increased enrollments, strengthen existing clubs, and give special consideration to wartime production, held in all parts of State. Suitable printed leaflet prepared and distributed.

Victory Gardens.- An expanded home food-production and preservation program will get under way with proclamation by Governor. Extension horticulturist as chairman of Victory Garden committee developing plans for State conference of interested workers.

Farm labor.- Studying Department's farm-labor assignment preparatory to organization and administration of 1943 wartime farm-labor program at State, county, and community levels in event Extension assumes this responsibility.

Russian seed relief.- Extension worked closely with State seed relief committee. Agents organized local committees which obtained over \$36,000 in contributions. Extension agronomist served on seed purchasing committee which purchased 13 carloads of pure seed for shipment to Russia.

Seed.- Information on flax varieties being provided growers who have difficulty locating seed for spring planting. Data on crops that maybe substituted for corn distributed in view of possible seed-corn shortage.

Income tax.- Prepared Federal income and Victory tax directions together with literature on making farm income-tax returns.

Sheep.- Conducting campaign to control nodular worms by use of phenothiazine drench; distributed information on shearling pelt program.

VIRGINIA
February 1, 1943

Production goals.- Series of meetings, sponsored by State War Board, held throughout State to reach professional workers and AAA committeemen relative to 1943 production goals. Specialists gave basic information on production practices. County meetings also held to discuss goals with farmers. Agents report genuine determination on part of farmers and wives to do all they can, despite handicaps.

Victory Gardens.- Horticulturists especially active on Victory Gardens. Assistance given OCD Victory Garden committees to train leaders for urban programs, including meetings with local seedsmen, fertilizer dealers, press and radio representatives. 16 nonurban Victory Garden meetings held.

Dairy.- Dairy specialists meeting with dairymen to help with recommendations to meet labor and feed conditions and maintain milk goals. Annual meeting State dairymen's association arranged whole program around problems of milk producers in meeting goals.

Poultry.- Continued work with farm families in interest of more eggs and poultry meat. Specialists visited 152 producers in January, and held 47 meetings attended by 1,740.

Livestock.- Hog producers indicate spring farrowing will be more than 30 percent above last spring. Accent on economical production. Educational work on spring lambing also emphasized.

Seeds and fertilizer.- Fertilizer recommendations for Virginia crops revised on basis of WPB-approved grades. Publicity given spring seeding operations, with emphasis on use of improved seed.

Farm buildings and machinery.- Though extension engineers continue to stress farm machinery and household equipment repairs, they report that requests for farm building plans have increased 50 percent above normal of past years.

Information.- Following publications issued: Virginia's Production Goals and Suggestions for Meeting Them, Neighborhood Leader's Digest, Sprayer Check List, Timely Information for Hog Producers, Town Victory Garden.